

June 6, 2023

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]:

Re: Your request for access to information under Part 2 of The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act: Our File Number: PMH-2023-24-04

On April 28, 2023, Prairie Mountain Health received your request for access to the following records:

Please provide data on the number of patients that died while on a waiting list for surgery or a procedure in fiscal year 2022-23. Please break the data out by surgery/procedure and case information – date the patient was referred to a specialist, decision date, date for the procedure, and date of cancellation. Please also note the government's target time for providing the procedure in question. Note: Many hospitals/health regions were able to identify such cases as they track the reason for cancelled operations.

Time period: April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2023.

I am pleased to inform you that your request for access has been granted in part. Please see the attached, which shows the number of patients that have died while on a waiting list for a surgical procedure, the type of procedure, decision date and the scheduled and cancellation date of the procedure in Prairie Mountain Health (PMH) for the fiscal year 2022-23. Please use caution when interpreting the information under the scheduled date for procedure and date of cancellation due to death columns. In some cases, the scheduled procedure date was cancelled prior to death due to other patient specific reasons. The patient was then placed back on the waiting list for the surgical procedure and the surgery date was not rescheduled prior to patient death.

The national benchmark for cataract surgery is within 16 weeks.

The information being provided is based on entry into an electronic surgical information system. The date the patient was referred to a specialist is not captured in this system. Consequently, these records do not exist in the manner in which you requested. Accordingly, your request for access to this information is refused under paragraph 12(1)(c)(i) of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

In some facilities in PMH, the scheduled date for the procedure is not collected and/or retained in the electronic surgical information system. This information may be found in the client's health record; however, this would require a manual search and would be deemed an unreasonable invasion of the client's personal health information. Your request for the type of procedure is also refused where the specific type or the low numbers of the procedure, along with details of dates, may identify a patient whose personal health information was collected for purposes of provision of health care. This information falls within the following exceptions to disclosure in the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*.

17(1) The head of a public body shall refuse to disclose personal information to an applicant if the disclosure

would be an unreasonable invasion of a third party's privacy.

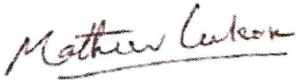
- 17(2) A disclosure of personal information about a third party is deemed to be an unreasonable invasion of the third party's privacy if,
(a) The personal information is personal health information.

Subsection 59(1) of *The Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act* provides that you may make a complaint about this decision to the Manitoba Ombudsman. You have 60 days from the receipt of this notice to make a complaint on the prescribed form to:

Manitoba Ombudsman
750 - 500 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg MB R3C 3X1
1-800-665-0531

Should you have any questions related to our response, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mathew Lukose". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Mathew Lukose MSW, RSW
Access and Privacy Coordinator - Prairie Mountain Health
204-578-4359

ML/cd

Number of Patients that have Died While on a Waiting List for a Surgical Procedure in 2022/2023

| Number of Patients | Type of Procedure | Decision Date | Scheduled Date for Procedure | Date of Cancellation due to Death |
|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | March 9, 2020 | No surgery date | November 2, 2022 |
| 2 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | March 11, 2021 | No surgery date | February 7, 2023 |
| 3 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | June 7, 2021 | Not collected or retained | February 11, 2022 |
| 4 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | January 12, 2022 | No surgery date | February 28, 2023 |
| 5 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | March 15, 2022 | Not collected or retained | July 12, 2022 |
| 6 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | March 30, 2022 | No surgery date | April 20, 2022 |
| 7 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | February 10, 2022 | No surgery date | December 5, 2022 |
| 8 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | March 9, 2022 | No surgery date | January 16, 2023 |
| 9 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | April 27, 2022 | No surgery date | November 18, 2022 |
| 10 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | May 24, 2022 | No surgery date | November 16, 2022 |
| 11 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | August 26, 2021 | Not collected or retained | April 21, 2022 |
| 12 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | June 25, 2022 | No surgery date | January 9, 2023 |
| 13 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | January 9, 2023 | Not collected or retained | January 19, 2023 |
| 14 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | January 24, 2022 | Not collected or retained | March 29, 2022 |
| 15 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | October 18, 2022 | No surgery date | December 20, 2022 |
| 16 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | August 30, 2022 | No surgery date | April 25, 2023 |
| 17 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | August 3, 2022 | No surgery date | February 21, 2023 |
| 18 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | November 11, 2022 | No surgery date | March 7, 2023 |
| 19 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | December 1, 2021 | No surgery date | April 22, 2022 |
| 20 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | March 13, 2023 | No surgery date | April 24, 2023 |
| 21 | 17(1); 17(2)(a) | November 8, 2021 | Not collected or retained | April 5, 2022 |
| 22 | Cataract | March 28, 2022 | No surgery date | June 7, 2022 |
| 23 | Cataract | April 20, 2022 | Not collected or retained | July 6, 2022 |
| 24 | Cataract | July 29, 2022 | Not collected or retained | January 10, 2023 |
| 25 | Cataract | October 19, 2022 | No surgery date | November 16, 2022 |
| 26 | Cataract | November 15, 2021 | Not collected or retained | May 31, 2022 |
| 27 | Cataract | March 25, 2022 | Not collected or retained | August 30, 2022 |
| 28 | Cataract | March 8, 2022 | June 21, 2022 | May 3, 2023 |
| 29 | Cataract | August 15, 2022 | Not collected or retained | December 2, 2022 |
| 30 | Cataract | September 27, 2022 | Not collected or retained | November 30, 2022 |
| 31 | Cataract | April 9, 2021 | Not collected or retained | March 8, 2022 |
| 32 | Cataract | May 21, 2021 | Not collected or retained | September 15, 2022 |
| 33 | Cataract | July 19, 2021 | Not collected or retained | November 4, 2022 |
| 34 | Cataract | July 21, 2021 | No surgery date | June 13, 2022 |
| 35 | Cataract | August 23, 2021 | No surgery date | April 4, 2022 |
| 36 | Cataract | May 7, 2021 | Not collected or retained | October 26, 2022 |
| 37 | Cataract | July 19, 2021 | No surgery date | July 11, 2022 |

| Number of Patients | Type of Procedure | Decision Date | Scheduled Date for Procedure | Date of Cancellation due to Death |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 38 | Cataract | October 22, 2021 | Not collected or retained | September 7, 2022 |
| 39 | Cataract | July 22, 2021 | Not collected or retained | April 25, 2023 |
| 40 | Cataract | October 20, 2021 | Not collected or retained | October 6, 2022 |
| 41 | Cataract | December 17, 2021 | No surgery date | October 14, 2022 |
| 42 | Cataract | December 14, 2021 | Not collected or retained | November 29, 2022 |
| 43 | Cataract | February 8, 2022 | Not collected or retained | January 27, 2023 |